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WESTVIEW SHIFTS

by Tom Cook

Westview presently has the second largest student population in Metro and the largest in North York. For the school year of 1977-78, Westview's administration has reluctantly been forced into using a split shift system for staff and students.

Under the shift system, senior students in Grades 11 to 13 are scheduled between 8:00 am and 2:10 pm, while Grade 9 and 10 students use the classrooms between 10:10 am and 4:20 pm. The obvious disadvantages are as follows: 1) early rising—no doubt there are a lot of students who arrive at school late, dragging their bodies into their classroom chairs while the blurry, red eyed teachers try and figure out when the first morning coffee (wake-up) break will come; 2) extra curricular activities may suffer

as teachers won't give extra time to supervise or coach school teams; and 3) a similar problem, difficulty for students trying to get extra help from teachers in subjects where they lack skills. This is not the fault of all the teachers because not all of them could find the extra time.

Advantages to this scheme are 1) the flow of students can be more easily controlled for classroom scheduling; 2) there is more space in the cafeteria this year during all lunch periods; and 3) senior students now have extra time in the day for part-time jobs or homework, or both.

I personally think that this split shift is working out for everyone. Even though there are still major conflicts that must be dealt with, this was a good choice administration made on behalf of students and staff.

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PEP for the jobless

By M. Shannon

If you're under 21 and unemployed, Downsview's Youth Clinical Service wants to help you find a job.

The clinic is introducing a "Preparation for Employment Program" (P.E.P.), in which groups of youthful job seekers will meet with counsellors and prospective employers, for instruction in completing applications, resumes and interviews. "Participants in P.E.P. might be kids who are thinking of leaving school, or even graduates-to-be who might have a problem on where to begin a job search, as

well as those having trouble finding a job," says Honey Kerr-Went, Director of the Clinic.

Among other services offered are occupational and vocational counselling. "Information is also available on different government programs that could help a youth in obtaining a career in which he or she is interested," Kerr-Went notes.

The program is scheduled twice a month at the clinic, located at 800 Oakdale Road, across the street from Westview Secondary School. Information is available by calling Sharon at 742-2514.

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